GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:541
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2005
PROMOTION OF RURAL/AGRO BASED INDUSTRIES
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Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government for promotion of rural/agro based industries;

(b) the details of the rural industries in Agriculture Sector;

(c) the amount allocated by the Government for the export of products by these industries; and

(d) the State-wise, details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a)to(d): A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 541 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.05.2005.

(a): The Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has been implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), for promotion of agro-based rural industries and generation of employment thereby. REGP is a credit- linked subsidy programme under which the credit is provided by the banks and subsidy by the Government, for setting up village industries, including rural agro-based industries. In addition, the KVIC implements other support schemes for promotion of village (including rural/agro-based) industries, viz., Rural Industries Service Centres (RISCs), Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP), Science and Technology schemes, etc.

Besides, the Government has been implementing the Prime Minister`s Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), in both rural and urban areas for providing self-employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth. This too is a credit-linked subsidy scheme under which an estimated 50 per cent of the units come in the rural areas. The scheme is implemented through the District Industries Centres of the States and Union Territories, with the loans being provided by banks.

The coir industry included in the rural agro-based industries, is also supported by the Government through the statutory body of the Coir Board. The Coir Board implements several schemes and programmes for development of (coir) production infrastructure, supply of equipment and machinery of subsidised rates, Mahila Coir Yojana, training and extension, domestic sale and export promotion of coir and coir products, etc.

(b): The agro-based rural industries mainly include units of mini rice mill, cattle feed, cane gur & khandsari, bakery products, ghani oil, sweets and milk products, atta, masala, cashew processing, fruit & vegetable processing, coir and coir products, etc.

(c): During the first three years of the 10th Plan period (2002- 03, 2003-04 and 2004-05), an amount of Rs. 4.75 crore has been spent by the Coir Board for `export market promotion` for export of coir and coir products. Further in the Annual Plan 2005-06, a sum of Rs. 2 crore is available to the Coir Board for this purpose. To encourage the exporting institutions and individual entrepreneurs registered with the KVIC and boost the export of village industry products. KVIC has been implementing `Export Incentive Scheme`. A sum of Rs. 86.39 lakh has been spent during the first three years of the 10th Plan period (2002-03 to 2004-05) and an amount of Rs. 50 lakh has been allocated in the Annual plan 2005-06 for this purpose.

(d): Allocation of Central Government funds for export of agro- based village industry products is done taking into account their export potential and demands of the foreign market. Hence the allocation of these funds is not State-wise.